

NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN
44TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
[FACEBOOK.COM/CONGRESSWOMANBARRAGAN](https://www.facebook.com/CongresswomanBarragan)
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2246 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE
BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-8220

DISTRICT OFFICES:

MAIN OFFICE
302 W. FIFTH STREET, SUITE 201
SAN PEDRO, CA 90731
(310) 831-1799

701 E. CARSON STREET
CARSON, CA 90745

8650 CALIFORNIA AVENUE
SOUTH GATE, CA 90280

205 S. WILLOWBROOK AVENUE
COMPTON, CA 90220

March 22, 2022

Liane Randolph, Chair
California Air Resources Board
10001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposed Amendments to Commercial Harbor Craft Regulation (Agenda Item # 22-5-1)

Dear Chair Randolph and Members of the Board:

I support the proposed amendments to the Commercial Harbor Craft Regulation (CHCR) before the California Air Resources Board (CARB). I urge the Board to adopt these proposed amendments, as they would strengthen existing regulations and significantly reduce toxic air pollution in port communities across the State of California, including in my Congressional District.

Harbor crafts represent one of the top three sources of emissions at seaports.ⁱ In 2023, they are expected to contribute to more diesel particulate matter emissions than trucks at the San Pedro Bay Port Complex. Vessels with Tier 2 engines, permitted under the current regulation, emit 162 times more diesel particulate matter than a five-year-old school bus. The proposed amendments would reduce harbor craft emissions of diesel particulate matter by 89 percent and nitrogen oxide by 54 percent, once fully implemented. Additionally, by strengthening the CHCR, the State of California will take a big step toward transitioning the marine sector to zero-emissions, while also moving closer to net-zero carbon goals and mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Ports are economic engines both locally and nationwide, but also major sources of air pollution with serious public health consequences. My Congressional District, which includes the Port of Los Angeles and the neighboring communities of Wilmington and San Pedro, is burdened by one of the highest asthma rates in the nation.ⁱⁱ Strengthening the CHCR will have a significant impact on the health and quality of life of my constituents.

By CARB's own estimates, the proposed amendments to strengthen the CHCR would avoid the premature deaths of 531 Californians, while preventing 236 emergency room visits and 161 hospital admissions. Full implementation of the proposed amendments would reduce health

expenses by \$5.25 billion with implementation costs a significantly lower \$1.98 billion. The cost-effectiveness and public health benefit of strengthening the CHRC is clear.

As the Representative of California's 44th Congressional District, I urge CARB to consider the health and safety of California's port communities by adopting the proposed amendments to strengthen the CHCR.

Sincerely,



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

ⁱ California Air Resources Board. (2021, October 1). *Proposed Amendments to the Commercial Harbor Craft Regulations*. <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/fact-sheets/proposed-amendments-commercial-harbor-craft-regulation>

ⁱⁱ SmartAirLA/LBACA. *Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor Asthma Danger Zone Map*. <https://www.healthycity.org/archives/smartairla/>